

## **CLAIMS**

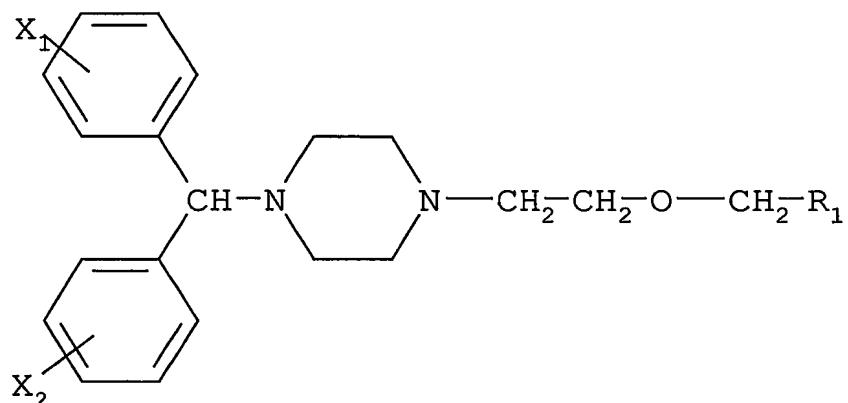
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1. Oral pharmaceutical composition containing at least two separate formulations:

- a first formulation, which contains an active compound selected from 2-[4-(diphenylmethyl)-1-piperazinyl]-acetic acids and their amides having the general formula I

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### Formula I



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wherein

$R_1$  is a  $-COOH$  group or a  $-CONH_2$  group, and

$X_1$  and  $X_2$ , taken separately, each represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a

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straight-chain or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy group or a trifluoromethyl group as well as their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, geometrical isomers, enantiomers, diastereomers and mixtures thereof, and which first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 300 in a molar ratio between the polyol and active compound of formula I above 10; and

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- a second formulation, which contains one or more solid polyol(s) with a molecular weight of less than 3000 and is free of any drug.

2. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 950 in a molar ratio between polyol and active compound of formula I above 10, with the exception of lactose.  
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3. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 300 in a molar ratio between polyol and active compound of formula I above 5.
- 10 4. A composition according to any of claims 1-3 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 300.
5. A composition according to any of claims 1-3 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 950 in a molar ratio  
15 between polyol and active compound of formula I above 5, with the exception of lactose.
- 20 6. A composition according to any of claims 1-5 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 950, with the exception of lactose.
7. A composition according to any of claims 1-6 wherein the formulations are prepared in the form of powders, granules, solutions or suspensions.
- 25 8. A composition according to any of claims 1-7 wherein the polyol in the second formulation is mannitol.
9. A composition according to any of claims 1-7 wherein the polyol in the second formulation is a polysaccharide.  
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10. A composition according to any of claims 1-9 wherein at least one of the formulations further contains an alcalinizing agent.
- 35 11. A composition according to claim 10 wherein the alcalinizing agent is sodium citrate.

12. A composition according to any of claims 1-10 wherein the first formulation further contains one or more excipients selected from cyclodextrins, colloidal anhydrous silica, microcrystalline cellulose, magnesium stearate, flavors or colorants.

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13. A composition according to any of claims 1-12 wherein the first formulation further contains non-polyol sweetening agents such as acesulfame K, aspartame, saccharine, saccharine sodium or cyclamate.

10 14. A composition according to any of claims 1-13 wherein the active compound in the first formulation is cetirizine dihydrochloride, levocetirizine dihydrochloride or efletirizine dihydrochloride.

15 15. A composition according to any of claims 1-14 wherein it is in the form of a chewing gum, tablet or effervescent tablet.

16. A composition according to claim 15 in the form of a multi-layer tablet wherein each of the layers is prepared from one of the formulations.

20 17. A composition according to claim 16 in the form of a multi-layer tablet wherein an inert layer separates the layers prepared from the two formulations.

18. A composition according to claim 15 wherein it is a tablet having an inner core prepared from one of the formulation and an outer shell prepared from the other formulation.

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19. A composition according to claim 15 wherein it is a chewing gum that comprises

30 - a core made from the first formulation and additionally containing the gum base, and

- a coating made from the second formulation.

20. A composition according to claim 15 wherein it is a chewing gum that comprises

35 - a core made from the second formulation and additionally containing the gum base, and

- a coating made from the first formulation.

21. A composition according to any of claims 1-14 wherein it is a dry syrup prepared  
from a mixture of two types of granules wherein one type of granules is made by  
5 compaction of the first formulation and the other type of granules is made by  
compaction of the second formulation.

22. A method of preparing a composition according to any of claims 1-21 by  
separately preparing the first formulation, preparing the second formulation and  
10 combining the two formulations.